



## Steps for Your Congregation's Participation:

- Step 1** **Vote as a council with your pastor(s) to be a part of the New Connections effort.**
- Step 2** **Set a three-year goal** to increase the number of people actively participating in your church's ministry on a weekly basis. **Then set a financial goal** for your campaign effort. Fill out the Congregation Acceptance Form (*Can be completed immediately following or during the Council visit – Step 1*)
- Step 3** **Select two members of your congregation to serve as your Congregation Leaders and arrange for their training.** One takes the lead on developing your congregation's effort to increase active participants, the other leads the stewardship effort. Both may want to recruit teams to assist the effort. Each will receive detailed training on how to proceed.
- \*\*Report your two leaders with contact information by filling out the Congregation Leader forms found here [placeholder]. (By 31 January, 2018 to enable training)*
- Step 4** **Identify new engagement opportunities.** Recommend discussions that identify your congregation's strengths in engaging people who become active participants in the life of your congregation, **then, expand on those strengths in new engagement Ministry opportunities in the surrounding community.** Your volunteer Leader for Engagement and their team spearhead this effort. (*Now through May, 2020*)
- Step 5:** **Conduct a five to six week financial gifts campaign** culminating in the seeking of three-year pledges from families of the congregation. Your Congregation's Council along with the Stewardship and Engagement leads discern the timing and the exact method). Other options for your congregation's participation will be provided at the Leader Training as well. (*5-6 consecutive weeks within January, 2018 through May, 2020*)

*"You want to be a part of this. You want to be a part of what God is doing! I think God is calling us into something special, something really impactful, something that will not only alter our personal lives but our context, our cities, our world." Rev. Leila Ortiz*

## Timeline\* for Congregation Participation

Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5 through May 2020
Step 1: Decide to participate in the New Congregations campaign			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ Utilize Coaching</li> <li>+ Attend training and E-vents</li> <li>+ Attend retreats</li> <li>+ Capture New Connections stories</li> <li>+ Share what's working and didn't work across the Synod</li> <li>+ Join in on Social media</li> </ul>	
Step 2: Set a three-year growth goal (active participants) for the engagement portion of the appeal AND a financial goal				
<p><b>Step 3:</b>            Select two members of your congregation to serve as your Congregation Leaders for Engagement and Stewardship.</p> <p>Arrange for your Congregation Leaders to attend a Congregation Leader Training Event in your area.</p>				
Step 4: Identify new engagement opportunities through existing and new ministries and individually.				
Step 5: Conduct a five to six week financial gifts campaign				

\* This is a notional timeline – Councils are encouraged to consider this as a template and incorporate in a way that makes sense for the life of their congregations